

US EPA RECORDS CENTER REGION 5



495047

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August 16, 2004

CONTAINERS FOR INDUSTRY

INDUSTRIAL SUPPLIERS OF

DOT/EPA/UN
Approved Hazardous
Waste Containers

New & Reconditioned
Steel Drums
Poly Drums
Fibre Drums

Secondary and
Spill Containment
Systems & Supplies

Steel/Poly Pails

Steel/Poly Tote Tanks

Drum/Pail
Accessories

Drum Handling
Equipment

Burlap/Poly
Bags

Plastic Bags/Liners

Packaging Supplies

Mr. Erick H. Olson
Office of Regional Counsel C.14J
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency
77 West Jackson Boulevard
Chicago, Illinois 60604

Dear Mr. Olson:

Replying to your letter of July 30, 2004, I want you to know that I have given a lot of thought and heartache over our problem with the EPA.

I tried to figure what the Gurman Company has been doing all its years in business since 1922, when my father started with horse and wagon collecting burlap bags, bushel baskets, wooden boxes and slack barrels. I am thinking about the years my brother and I and later my sons did to work making a living. I come up with the fact that we are a viable, law-abiding, tax paying company.

Just to give an idea of what our little company has done over these many years, we have always tried to be good neighbors and live within all regulations of all governments in our great country. We generate a payroll of approximately \$250,000 to \$275,000 per year. This payroll generates taxes for Federal, State, City and County.

The company itself pays county and city property taxes amounting to approximately \$12,000 per year. The company also generates a state sales tax of almost \$30,000 per year. After all these taxes are paid, the balance goes into the community business stream. In addition to making a living for nine families, the company feels we are doing a much needed service by collecting all types of non-hazardous containers and disposing of them properly.



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The firms that my son Robert submitted in my opinion are probably the only firms that may have had some products in their drums that could fit the tests made by Mr. Rick Molini and Billy Giles.

Mr. Olson, I wonder if you have read the letters my son sent to Mr. Frank Boenzi, dated October 27, 2003 and November 26, 2003. These letters say better than I can how we think our business would be affected. Please read the letter I sent to Fawad Dababneh on December 29, 2003, regarding the death of my son. I am not a doctor but I knew my son, and I feel that the stress and worry about this problem about his business had an effect on him. And frankly, it is having an effect on me.

It would be a great relief for his widow if the EPA could find a way to solve this problem equitably to all concerned.

Respectfully,


Isadore Gurman

IG/mrf



U.S. ENVIRONMENTAL
PROTECTION AGENCY

AUG 20 2004

OFFICE OF REGIONAL
COUNSEL